

Amendments to the Claims

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) Foamable compositions ~~mainly consisting of~~ formed by:

- A) 50-99.9% by weight of a chlorotrifluoroethylene (CTFE) polymer containing at least 80% by moles of CTFE; and
- B) 0.1-50% by weight of a nucleating agent.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) Foamable compositions according to claim 1, wherein the mainly formed by:

- ~~A) 50-99.9% by weight of a chlorotrifluoroethylene (CTFE) polymer containing at least 80% by moles of CTFE; and~~
- ~~B) 0.1-50% by weight of a nucleating agent,~~ is in the form of a ~~under~~ fine powder, having average particle size lower than 50 micron, ~~preferably lower than 20 micron~~ and a melting temperature higher than 250 °C.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to claim 1, wherein the nucleating agent is a selected between the tetrafluoroethylene (TFE) homopolymer or a copolymer of the tetrafluoroethylene (TFE) homopolymer ~~its copolymers~~ having a second melting temperature higher than 250 °C.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to claim 1, wherein the nucleating agent B) is a the tetrafluoroethylene tetrafluoroethylene homopolymer (PTFE) having a number average molecular weight lower than 1,000,000, ~~preferably lower than 500,000.~~

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, wherein the TFE copolymers are selected from TFE copolymers with perfluoroalkylvinylethers wherein the alkyl is a C₁ – C₃, TFE copolymers with perfluorodioxoles or TFE copolymers with hexafluoropropene (FEP), optionally containing perfluoroalkylvinylethers.

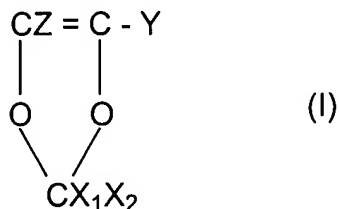
Claim 6. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to claim 1, wherein the nucleating agent is used in an amount from 5 to 30% by weight, ~~more preferably from 10 to 20%.~~

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to claim 1, wherein the nucleating agent B) is a the tetrafluoroethylene homopolymer (PTFE), irradiated with gamma rays or with electron beam.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to claim 1, wherein the polymer A) is formed by at least 90% by moles of CTFE, ~~preferably by at least 95% by moles.~~

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to claims claim 1, wherein the polymer A) is a CTFE copolymer with one or more comonomers selected from:

- perfluoroalkylvinylethers, wherein the alkyl is C₁ – C₃, ~~preferably~~
~~perfluoropropylvinylether;~~
- dioxoles having formula:



wherein Y is equal to OR_f wherein R_f is a perfluoroalkyl having from 1 to 5 carbon atoms, or Y = Z as defined below; ~~preferably Y is equal to OR_f~~; X₁ and X₂, equal to or different from each other, are –F or –CF₃; Z is selected from –F, –H, –Cl; ~~preferably in formula (I) X₁, X₂ and Z are –F; R_f is preferably –CF₃, –C₂F₅, or –C₃F₇;~~

- acrylic monomers having general formula:



wherein R₁ is a hydrogenated radical from 1 to 20 C atoms, C₁-C₂₀, alkyl, linear and/or branched, or cycloalkyl radical, or R₁ is H, wherein ~~The radical~~

R₁ can optionally contain: heteroatoms preferably ~~Cl, O, N~~; one or more functional groups preferably ~~selected from OH, COOH, epoxide, ester and ether~~; and double bonds;

- vinylidene fluoride (VDF) and/or tetrafluoroethylene (TFE).

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) A process to prepare molded articles and foamed coatings comprising the extrusion or thermoforming of the compositions of claim 1.

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) Molded articles and foamed coating ~~obtainable~~ obtained according to claim 10.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) Articles and foamed coatings according to claim 11 having a void ~~[[%]]~~ percentage higher than 10% by volume, ~~preferably higher than 20% by volume~~, wherein the average cell sizes are lower than 100 micron, ~~preferably lower than 60 micron~~.

Claim 13. (Original) Electric wires formed of a metal conductor and of a foamed coating according to claim 12.

Claim 14. (New) The foamable compositions according to claim 2, wherein the average particle size is lower than 20 micron.

Claim 15. (New) The compositions according to claim 4, wherein the nucleating agent B) has a number average molecular weight lower than 500,000.

Claim 16. (New) The compositions according to claim 6, wherein the nucleating agent is used in an amount from 10 to 20% by weight.

Claim 17. (New) The compositions according to claim 8, wherein the polymer A) is formed by at least 95% by moles of CTFE.

Claim 18. (New) The compositions according to claim 9, wherein the perfluoroalkylvinylethers are perfluoropropylvinylether.

Claim 19. (New) The compositions according to claim 9, wherein Y is equal to OR_f .

Claim 20. (New) The compositions according to claim 9, wherein X_1 , X_2 and Z are $-F$ in formula (I).

Claim 21. (New) The compositions according to claim 9, wherein R_f is one selected from the group consisting of $-CF_3$, $-C_2F_5$, and $-C_3F_7$.

Claim 22. (New) The compositions according to claim 9, wherein the heteroatoms are selected from the group consisting of Cl, O, and N.

Claim 23. (New) The compositions according to claim 12, wherein the void percentage is higher than 20% by volume.

Claim 24. (New) The compositions according to claim 12, wherein the average cell sizes are lower than 60 micron.